

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Laura Handzel, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires law enforcement agency to establish policies and procedures for retaining recordings from cameras worn upon police officers to record interactions with members of public while on duty. Outlines public records requirements and exemptions. Clarifies terms related to evidence and discovery. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Proposed -A8 amendment adds “ongoing criminal investigations” to exceptions for recording retention requirements.

BACKGROUND: The use of personal cameras worn upon a police officer’s person – known as “body cameras” – has recently been a topic of national debate. Currently in Oregon, there is no requirement that police officers wear body cameras. Body cameras, however, are becoming increasingly popular among some of Oregon’s law enforcement agencies.

House Bill 2571-A does not require the use of body cameras in Oregon. The bill, however, requires law enforcement agencies to establish policies and procedures for retaining recordings from body cameras worn upon a police officer’s person to record their interactions with members of the public while on duty. House Bill 2571-A defines terms. It outlines public records law exemptions and exceptions to exemptions. Additionally, it mandates that all faces must be blurred to render them unidentifiable before disclosure. House Bill 2571-A clarifies evidence and discovery rules as they pertain to body cameras.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.